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Dated: \_\_\_\_\_

Docket No.: 20241/0202215-US0  
(PATENT)**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

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In re Patent Application of:  
Yoichi Kobayashi et al.

Application No.: Not Yet Assigned

Confirmation No.: N/A

Filed: Concurrently Herewith

Art Unit: N/A

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For: PROCESS FOR THE PRODUCTION OF  
METHIONINE

Examiner: Not Yet Assigned

**FIRST PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT**MS PCT  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

**INTRODUCTORY COMMENTS**

Prior to examination on the merits, please amend the above-identified U.S. patent application as follows:

**Amendments to the Specification** begin on page 2 of this paper.

**Amendments to the Claims** are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 3 of this paper.

**Amendments to the Abstract** begin on page 5 of this paper.

**Remarks/Arguments** begin on page 6 of this paper.